



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
NORFOLK DISTRICT
FORT NORFOLK
803 FRONT STREET
NORFOLK VA 23510-1011

July 1, 2016

Ms. Bettina Sullivan, Manager
Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Environmental Impact Review
& Long Range Priorities Program
Post Office Box 1105
Richmond, Virginia 23218

**RE: Coastal Zone Management Act Federal Consistency Determination for the
Expansion and Improvements of Quantico National Cemetery Prince William
County, Triangle, Virginia (DEQ 16-124F)**

Dear Ms. Sullivan:

Attached for your review is the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) Federal Consistency Determination for the Expansion and Improvements to the Quantico National Cemetery Project. We would request, if possible, an expedited review of the CZMA Federal Consistency Determination because the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) has already reviewed and approved the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for the project as well the Draft Environmental Assessment. The Erosion and Sediment Control Plan approval letter from the VDEQ and the Draft Environmental Assessment are enclosed for your reference. We are also requesting an expedited review because the Quantico National Cemetery is running out of burial space in 2017 and because of the national significance of this project. We would respectfully request, if possible, that the CZMA Federal Consistency be completed by July 19, 2016. Should you have any questions pertaining to CZMA or the attached supporting documents, please contact Richard Harr, Environmental Scientist at your earliest convenience by phone at 757-201-7746 or by e-mail at richard.m.harr@usace.army.mil. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Alicia Logalbo

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alicia Logalbo", is written over a horizontal line.

Acting Chief, Planning and Policy Branch

Enclosures

1. Stormwater Management (SWM)/ Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) Plan Approval letter from the VDEQ, dated February 4, 2016.
2. Draft Environmental Assessment.

**COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT
FEDERAL CONSISTENCY DETERMINATION**

**EXPANSION AND IMPROVEMENTS OF THE
Quantico National Cemetery
Prince William County, Triangle, Virginia**



Department of Veterans Affairs

425 I Street, NW

Washington DC 20001

July 1, 2016

CONSISTENCY REVIEW: Information to support this Federal consistency determination (including maps and additional supporting information) can be found in the accompanying Draft Environmental Assessment (EA), dated May, 2016 (attached).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The goal of the project is to construct and expand operations on an additional estimated seven acres of the Quantico National Cemetery (QNC) to provide for five additional years of burial expansion and to also expand parking accommodations at the Old Administration Building and provide renovations to the Old Administration Building. The cemetery expansion will include various burial options (casket, columbarium, and in-ground cremation burial sites) and all supporting infrastructure including parking pullouts, grave and section markers, irrigation, landscaping, visitor amenities, signage, and operational facility improvements. The burial expansion will include the construction of preplaced crypts, oversized gravesites, in-ground cremation burial sites, columbarium niches, and a memorial wall and ossuary site. This project will include the parking pullouts, sidewalks, grading, masonry, site furnishings, signage and landscaping associated with the burial sites. This development would include the associated construction of required stormwater management features as well.

PROPERTY CLASSIFICATION: Quantico National Cemetery (QNC) is located in Triangle, Virginia and is currently owned and operated by the U. S. Department of Veteran Affairs (VA). The U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, National Cemetery Administration (NCA) services our nation by providing final resting sites to active duty members and veterans of the U.S. military and their families. Veterans and their families are honored with lasting tributes that commemorate the sacrifice and service that veterans have provided to the nation in northern Virginia at QNC. The QNC is located in Triangle, Virginia, approximately 25 miles south of Washington, DC, and 24 miles north of Fredericksburg on Interstate Route 95. It is located on property that was formerly part of the Marine Corps Base Quantico (MCBQ) that was initially established in 1918. The United States Marine Corps donated 726.58 acres of land to the VA in January 1977, with the intent to establish the facility now known as QNC. The formal dedication of the QNC occurred on May 15, 1983.

IMPACTS TO RESOURCES/USES OF THE COASTAL ZONE: See Summaries below.

DETERMINATION: Based upon evaluation of impacts analyzed in the Environmental Assessment and in accordance with Section 307 of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) and the CZMA Federal Consistency Regulation – 15 C.F.R. Part 930, the Norfolk District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers determined that the proposed project would be undertaken in a manner consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the Commonwealth of Virginia's Coastal Zone Management Program.

Enforceable Policies

Enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (VCP) and their applicability to the Expansion and Improvements of the QNC Project are described below (A-I).

A. Fisheries Management

The program stresses the conservation and enhancement of finfish and shellfish resources and the promotion of commercial and recreational fisheries to maximize food production and recreational opportunities. This program is administered by the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) (Virginia Code §28.2-200 through §28.2-713) and the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) (Virginia Code §29.1-100 through §29.1-570).

This project will not impact fisheries.

B. Subaqueous Lands Management

The management program for subaqueous lands establishes conditions for granting or denying permits to use state-owned bottomlands based on considerations of potential effects to marine and fisheries resources, wetlands, adjacent or nearby properties, anticipated public and private benefits, and water quality standards established by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality Water Quality Division. The program is administered by the VMRC (Virginia Code §28.2-1200 through §28.2-1213).

This project will not impact subaqueous lands.

C. Wetlands Management

The purpose of the wetlands management program is to preserve tidal wetlands, prevent their despoliation, and accommodate economic development in a manner consistent with wetlands preservation.

The tidal wetlands program is administered by the VMRC (Virginia Code §28.2-1301 through §28.2-1320).

The Virginia Water Protection Permit program administered by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) includes protection of wetlands -- both tidal and non-tidal. This program is authorized by Virginia Code § 62.1-44.15.5 and the Water Quality Certification requirements of §401 of the Clean Water Act of 1972.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers conducted a wetland site assessment of the project impact areas on January 25, 2015. Based on the results of this wetland assessment, no jurisdictional wetlands exist within the limits of project impact. Therefore, implementation of this project is not anticipated to impact tidal or non-tidal wetlands.

D. Dunes Management

Dune protection is carried out pursuant to the Coastal Primary Sand Dune Protection Act and is intended to prevent destruction or alteration of primary dunes. This program is administered by the Marine Resources Commission (Virginia Code §28.2-1400 through §28.2-1420).

This project will not impact sand dunes.

E. Non-point Source Pollution Control

Virginia's Erosion and Sediment Control Law requires soil-disturbing projects to be designed to reduce soil erosion and to decrease inputs of chemical nutrients and sediments to the Chesapeake Bay, its tributaries, and other rivers and waters of the Commonwealth. This program is administered by VDEQ (Virginia Code §62.1-44.15:51 *et seq.*).

The use of stormwater management BMPs to reduce erosion and sedimentation impacts will help minimize short-term and long-term impacts to soils and water quality. Prior to construction, a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan approved by the VDEQ as authorized under the Virginia Stormwater Management Program (VSMP) Regulation (9VAC25-870) that includes erosion control practices, inspection procedures, and other BMPs will be required.

An erosion and sediment control plan compliant with Erosion and Sediment Control Regulations (9VAC25-840) that minimizes soil exposure and compaction during construction and controls stormwater discharges to minimize soil erosion was approved by the VDEQ on February 4, 2016. A copy of the approval letter is attached. A VPDES General Construction Permit for this project will be obtained and a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan will be prepared for this project in accordance with the VPDES General Construction Permit.

F. Point Source Pollution Control

The point source program is administered by the State Water Control Board pursuant to Virginia Code §62.1-44.15. Point source pollution control is accomplished through the implementation of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program established pursuant to §402 of the federal Clean Water Act and administered in Virginia as the VPDES permit program. The Water Quality Certification requirements of §401 of the Clean Water Act of 1972 is administered under the Virginia Water Protection Permit program.

An individual Virginia Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (VPDES) permit is not required for this project. State Water Quality Certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act required is not required from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality for this project.

G. Shoreline Sanitation

The purpose of this program is to regulate the installation of septic tanks, set standards concerning soil types suitable for septic tanks, and specify minimum distances that tanks must be placed away from streams, rivers, and other waters of the Commonwealth. This program is administered by the Department of Health (Virginia Code §32.1-164 through §32.1-165).

This project involves no septic tanks; therefore, adherence to this program is not applicable to the proposed project.

H. Air Pollution Control

The program implements the Federal Clean Air Act to provide a legally enforceable State Implementation Plan for the attainment and maintenance of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. This program is administered by the State Air Pollution Control Board (Virginia Code §10.1-1300 through 10.1-1320).

Construction activities such as land clearing, grading, digging, continuation of cemetery operations involving digging and temporarily stockpiling soils, and road work and maintenance activities is anticipate to generate fugitive dust emissions and exhaust emissions from construction and maintenance vehicles and equipment. These impacts would be minor, adverse short-term impacts. Long-term increased emissions from maintenance activities of newly constructed cemetery features would have a negligible, long-term adverse impact on air quality. Air quality impacts caused by implementation of the project are not anticipated to cause noticeable local, regional, or global climatic changes.

Prince William County, where QNC is located, is under the jurisdiction of USEPA Region 3 (Mid-Atlantic) and the VDEQ. Per the USEPA Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning, Virginia (40 CFR 81.347) and the Commonwealth of Virginia State Air Pollution Control Board Regulations for the Control and Abatement of Pollution (9VAC5 Chapter 20), QNC is located in a non-attainment area for ozone, a maintenance area for PM_{2.5}, and is in attainment for all other criteria pollutants. The ozone non-attainment area and the PM_{2.5} maintenance area designations are likely attributed to vehicle emissions and industrial processes within the National Capital Interstate AQCR.

No substantial sources of regulated air emissions exist at the QNC (e.g., boilers and generators). Thus, the VA, as the owner of the site, is not required to have a Title V Operating Permit, based on current operating conditions.

Project emissions associated with implementation of the project are below de minimis thresholds. Therefore, this action is exempt from the General Conformity Rule requirement to prepare a full Conformity Determination, and a detailed analysis of emissions resulting from project implementation is not warranted.

I. Coastal Lands Management

The VDEQ Water Quality Division administers a state-local cooperative program with 84 localities in Tidewater, Virginia established pursuant to the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act (Virginia Code §§ 62.1-44.15:67 through 62.1-44.15:79) and Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area Designation and Management Regulations (Virginia Administrative Code 9 VAC 25-830-10 *et seq.*).

The project impact area does not occur in a Resource Protection Area (RPA); therefore, there will be no impacts to any Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act RPA with implementation of this project.

Advisory Policies for Geographic Area of Particular Concern

a. Coastal Natural Resource Areas

These areas are vital to estuarine and marine ecosystems and/or are of great importance to areas immediately inland of the shoreline. Such areas receive special attention from the Commonwealth because of their conservation, recreational, ecological, and aesthetic values. These areas are worthy of special consideration in any planning or resources management process and include the following resources: Wetlands, aquatic spawning, nursery, feeding grounds, coastal primary sand dunes, barrier islands, significant wildlife, habitat areas, public recreation areas, sand and gravel resources, and underwater historic sites.

There are no impacts to the estuarine and marine ecosystems from implementation of this project. This project is in compliance with this policy.

b. Coastal Natural Hazard Areas

This policy covers areas vulnerable to continuing and severe erosion and areas susceptible to potential damage from wind, tidal, and storm related events including flooding. New buildings and other structures should be designed and sited to minimize the potential for property damage due to storms or shoreline erosion. The areas of concern are as follows: highly erodible areas, coastal high hazard areas, including floodplains.

The Quantico National Cemetery land is variable with gently rolling wooded areas and areas containing steep slopes. The topography ranges from small, flat upland ridges to extensive steep valley walls with slopes exceeding 30 percent. Two stream valleys run through the QNC from north to south and drain to the Chopawamsic Creek; however these are not located within the project impact areas. The estimated highest elevation at QNC is an estimated 279 feet and the lowest elevation is approximately 100 feet with substantial sloping occurring between elevations. Caroline fine sandy loams compose the highest percentage of the project site areas with 50 percent flowed by the lunt loam soils greater than 20 percent. The Aura-Galestown-Sassafrass Complex only covers an estimated two percent of the project site areas.

The siting of project features and project engineering design was based on extensive geotechnical surveys that were completed in 2015. Therefore, the project is in compliance with this policy.

c. Waterfront Development Areas

These areas are vital to the Commonwealth because of the limited number of areas suitable for waterfront activities. The areas of concern are as follows: commercial ports, commercial fishing piers, and community waterfront.

There is no areas suitable for waterfront activities near this project. The project is in compliance with this policy.

Advisory Policies for Shorefront Access Planning and Protection

a. Virginia Public Beaches

Approximately 25 miles of public beaches are located in the cities, counties, and towns of Virginia exclusive of public beaches on state and federal land. These public shoreline areas will be maintained to allow public access to recreational resources.

The project will not impact any Virginia public beaches.

b. Virginia Outdoors Plan (VOP)

Planning for coastal access is provided by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation in cooperation with other state and local government agencies. The Virginia Outdoors Plan (VOP), which is published by the Department, identifies recreational facilities in the Commonwealth that provide recreational access. The VOP also serves to identify future needs of the Commonwealth in relation to the provision of recreational opportunities and shoreline access. Prior to initiating any project, consideration should be given to the proximity of the project site to recreational resources identified in the VOP.

There are no recreational facilities located in the project area.

c. Parks, Natural Areas, and Wildlife Management Areas

Parks, wildlife management areas, and natural areas are provided for the recreational pleasure of the citizens of the Commonwealth and the nation by local, state, and federal agencies. The recreational values of these areas should be protected and maintained.

There are no parks, natural areas or wildlife management areas located within the project area.

d. Waterfront Recreational Land Acquisitions

It is the policy of the Commonwealth to protect areas, properties, lands, or any estate or interest therein, of scenic beauty, recreational utility, historical interest, or unusual features which may be acquired, preserved, and maintained for the citizens of the Commonwealth.

This project does not limit the ability of the Commonwealth in any way to acquire, preserve, or maintain waterfront recreational lands.

e. Waterfront Recreational Facilities

This policy applies to the provision of boat ramps, public landings, and bridges which provide water access to the citizens of the Commonwealth. These facilities shall be designed, constructed, and maintained to provide points of water access when and where practicable.

This project does not involve the design, construction, or maintenance of any boat ramps, public landings, or bridges.

g. Waterfront Historic Properties

The Commonwealth has a long history of settlement and development, and much of that history has involved both shorelines and near-shore areas. The protection and preservation of historic shorefront properties is primarily the responsibility of the Department of Historic Resources. Buildings, structures, and sites of historical, architectural, and/or archaeological interest are significant resources for the citizens of the Commonwealth. It is the policy of the Commonwealth and the Virginia CZM Program to enhance the protection of buildings, structures, and sites of historical, architectural, and archaeological significance from damage or destruction when practicable.

No waterfront historic properties will be affected by this project.


Determination

Based upon the following information, data, and analysis, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District, finds that the Expansion and Improvements of Quantico National Cemetery is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program.

Pursuant to 15 CFR Section 930.41, the Virginia Coastal Resources Management Program has 60 days from receipt of this letter in which to concur with or object to this Consistency Determination, or to request an extension under CFR section 930.41 (b). Virginia's concurrence will be presumed if its response is not received by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the 60th day from receipt of this determination.

July 1, 2016

Date



Ms. Alicia Logalbo
Acting Chief, Planning and Policy
Norfolk District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Street address: 629 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219

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Molly Joseph Ward
Secretary of Natural Resources

David K. Paylor
Director

(804) 698-4000
1-800-592-5482

February 4, 2016

Mr. Matthew Knightes, PE
MSA, PC
5033 Rouse Drive
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

Re: Quantico National Cemetery Expansion & Improvements
18424 Joplin Road, Triangle, VA
DEQ Plan #: NRO-15-280
Stormwater Management (SWM) / Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) Plan Approval

Dear Mr. Sutton:

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has reviewed the combined Stormwater Management and Erosion & Sediment Control Plan received on January 27, 2016 in accordance with the *Virginia Stormwater Management Act and attendant Regulations* and the *Virginia Erosion and Sediment Control Law and attendant Regulations*. The Plan dated January 26, 2016 is hereby approved and a copy is enclosed. **No changes may be made to the approved Plan without obtaining prior approval from DEQ.**

As provided by Rule 2A:2 of the Supreme Court of Virginia, you have thirty (30) days from the date you received this decision within which to appeal this decision by filing a notice of appeal in accordance with the Rules of the Supreme Court of Virginia with the Director, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.

At your earliest convenience, please submit one digital copy (PDF preferred) of the approved Plan and accompanying specifications to DEQ at the following address:

Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Stormwater Management, 10th Floor
Attn: Stormwater Plan Review Coordinator
P.O. Box 1105
Richmond, Virginia 23218

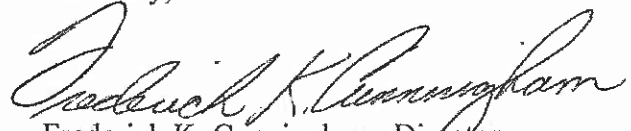
February 4, 2016
Re: DEQ Plan #: NRO-15-280
Page 2 of 2

It is the responsibility of the owner and/or operator to ensure that the project is constructed in accordance with the approved Plan and accompanying specifications. Upon completion of the project, the owner and/or operator will be required to submit a construction record drawing for all permanent stormwater management facilities (i.e., post-development best management practices) constructed in accordance with the approved Plan.

Prior to the commencement of construction, all land-disturbing activities equal to or greater than one acre, or less than one acre and part of a larger common plan of development or sale, must register for coverage under the General VPDES Permit for Discharges of Stormwater from Construction Activities (VAR10). If not already submitted, a copy of the 2014 General Permit registration statement can be obtained from DEQ's website at the following location:
<http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Portals/0/DEQ/Water/Publications/CGPRegistrationStatement2014.pdf>

Please contact Kelly Vanover at 804-837-1073 or kelly.vanover@deq.virginia.gov if you have any questions about this letter.

Sincerely,



Frederick K. Cunningham, Director
Office of Water Permits

Cc: Larry Gavan, DEQ-CO
Marian Carroll, DEQ-NRO
Kelly Vanover, Regional SWM Compliance Manager, DEQ-NRO
Amy Ballard, USACE

Enclosure